

Elections Forum

For student body president

Beasley

To the editor:

For the past three weeks, we have heard where each student body president candidate stands on the issues. Knowing how to effectively address the issues is important in the election, but the most important qualification in this race is experience. And the candidate that clearly has the most experience within Student Government is Jody Beasley.

Having served as both Student Congress Finance Committee chairman and student body treasurer, Jody has managed the budgets of nearly every major campus organization, an experience that has given him a clear understanding of issues that are important to these groups.

It is important that the next SBP be a resourceful person — one who has established contacts with a broad range of people. Having worked with Jody this year as executive assistants of minority concerns, we often depend on his experience and relationships with others to get things done for our committee. And since the majority of the issue-oriented work within Student Government is carried out by executive assistants, we need a president who has a broad enough resource base to effectively deal with the needs and concerns of his executive assistants.

Lastly, UNC needs a student body president who understands the workings of government and the people

who are most influential in maintaining its effectiveness in addressing student concerns. We need a president who can provide continuity for the programs established by the executive assistants of previous administrations. Jody has the knowledge and experience to make these things happen, which is why we encourage you to elect him our next student body president.

DARRIN POOLE
Senior
Economics

PAMELA BREWINGTON
Junior
Speech Communication/
Economics

To the editor:

I feel that Jody Beasley is the right person to fill the position of student body president, and I urge everyone to check out his platform.

Living in the same suite with Jody for two years is an experience I wish everyone could have. What I've seen is a student who has contributed much to this university in the short time he's been here. Becoming a South Campus representative his freshman year, he has worked his way up to the position of student body treasurer. I have been around few other people who have the dedication and sheer energy that Jody has. The guys joked that he never slept. He was always working on a project for

JAMES PARRISH
Junior
Speech Communication

willingness to work with people and has exhibited a natural concern for students. While other candidates merely talk about a willingness to provide better conditions, Lewis already has proven his dedication through action. For these reasons, remember to vote for Brien Lewis for student body president today.

DESMOND WALLACE
Sophomore
Political Science

CHARLES MILLS
Junior
RTVMP

To the editor:

As Student Congress members who have worked with many of the candidates for student body president, we know one who clearly stands out. All of the candidates have shown a commitment to student concerns, but Brien Lewis has displayed the firmest grasp of the administrative aspects of a job that entails being the chief student administrator.

Perhaps of foremost importance to the workings of Student Government is good communication. Brien's proposed administration had been designed with the specific goal of improving communication within the Executive Branch, and between the University administration and Student Government as a whole. This increased awareness between student

instructors.

Kevin has an active, reasonable solution to help end racial alienation and tension on campus. Let's push the administration to establish an administrator to coordinate minority affairs for students and the University. This person could act as an adviser for minority programs on campus, as well as a recruiter for minority students.

We need Kevin for his ideas and his active and refined leadership. I know he can make student concerns into University concerns through his assertiveness, diplomacy and communications skills.

DAVE BROWN
Senior
Political Science

To the editor:

Many decisions during the remainder of this semester will impact the black student community for years into the future. For example, the director for the Black Cultural Center will be selected and will begin official programming next year. With the resignation of Dean Hayden Renwick from the Office of Student Counseling, black students are left with a feeling of uncertainty as to the future of such programs as the Minority Advisers Program, the Minority Tutorial Program and the Minority 3.0 Reception.

The next student body president should be knowledgeable about these issues, aware of the concerns of black students and willing to communicate those concerns to the administration.

The BCC has been a long-standing concern of black students. Kevin has

read the original BCC proposal and talked with past and present student members of the Black Cultural Center Committee. He recognizes the primary goal of the center as that of providing a black cultural resource for black students and the University community. He is committed to attending BCC committee meetings, and has mentioned that the immediate concerns of the center include hiring a dedicated and qualified BCC director and acquiring adequate programming funds from the University. Kevin is dissatisfied with the space allocated in the Student Union for black student leaders and administrators.

Last year, incidents such as racial slurs directed toward a black MBA student and the carving of KKK on a black student's door in Joyner were addressed to Dean Renwick. His resignation leaves a void. Kevin feels that an office solely dedicated to minority affairs could address this void. Kevin has proposed an administrative and student task force to study this issue.

To effectively serve the University community, the next student body president must be sensitive to these issues. All candidates agree that minority recruitment and retention are crucial issues. Kevin recognizes this can only happen through improving the University environment for black students — namely through a strong BCC and an office addressing minority concerns.

ROCHELLE BRANDON
Senior
Chemistry

David was also appointed by his fellow congress members to serve on the Student Educational Broadcasting Board and the Media Board.

Through his active participation in student government, David has observed the problems that exist in the university community. For instance, David sees a lack of communication between students and the executive branch. One of his solutions is a monthly column in the Daily Tar Heel in order to better inform

students about the problems being considered and the actions being taken by Student Government.

In addition, David realizes the importance which we, as students, should have in the decisions made by the town of Chapel Hill. His solution is to actively pursue the registration of each student to vote in Orange County and then to lead the students in a unified attempt to have a major impact on local politics. We believe that David Maynard is the most capable candidate to continue the work of past and present SBP's to find the solutions.

ANNA BAIRD
Student Congress
District 11

GENE DAVIS
Student Congress
District 18

To the editor:

The low level of student input in

Poston

To the editor:

As a senior, I have seen many student body presidents come and go with very little, if any, impact on me as a student. Perhaps that is why so few students usually vote on election day, because they see no need to put forth the effort. But this year is different. We do have a candidate who cares about working for the students, one who will make a difference if elected today. That candidate is Keith Poston.

I have known Keith two years now, and I can tell you that he is concerned about the wasteful spending by Student Government, about the difficulty the majority of students have in finding part-time employment and about the image this university has. His specific proposals concerning expansion of Student Part-Time Employment Service, as well as the cooperative education program with the local secondary school systems, address these concerns.

Even with such good ideas, it takes more than that to be an effective

Rierson

To the editor:

This letter is an endorsement for the candidacy of Sandy Rierson for student body president. Although I have only known Sandy for a year, she impresses me as someone who is sincerely concerned with the interests, problems and issues facing this campus. A clear example of her wish to lead this school in the right direction is a question she asked me when she was trying to decide whether or not to run for SBP. She did not ask "What can I do to win?" or "Do you think I have a chance?" Rather she asked: "Do you think I could do a good job?" and "Am I really the right person for the job?" Much careful deliberation went into her decision to run for this very important office.

As for her qualifications, Sandy Rierson was awarded the Truman Scholar Award this year, was nominated to represent North Carolina at a government convention in Arizona this summer, was executive assistant to former SBP Bryan Hassel and is president of the UNC Young Democrats. But it is personal characteristics which make her the best candidate for this office. She is one of the few people I know who can say with complete honesty that she

Yelverton

To the editor:

Bill Yelverton has the experience, the ideas and the vision it takes to be an effective student body president.

As one of my executive assistants, Bill helped initiate some exciting projects, including the UNITAS living/learning program and a Student Government voter registration drive. He also participated in a "strategy group" that dealt with many of the broader issues that the student body president faces. He is very familiar with the way the executive branch of Student Government functions and the kinds of concerns it addresses on a daily basis.

Significantly, Bill has also had a year of valuable experience as co-president of the Campus Y, making him the only candidate who has been the chief executive of a large student organization. The student body presidency cannot be a one-person show; a critical quality is the ability to motivate others to act. Bill has spent the past year doing just that. His creativity and energy are contagious, and by involving others, he would make his presidency active and successful.

Bill would translate all of this experience into ideas that work. At the top of his list are initiatives to give students more control over their academic lives. He wants more student involvement in setting the curriculum, in deciding what courses we have to take to graduate. He also stands for a greater student voice in evaluating professors so we can ensure that our faculty is committed to teaching.

Bill's concerns go beyond the

university and town decisions should be a big concern of UNC students. In David Maynard, the student body has an energetic leader who is committed to bringing a stronger student voice into the decision-making that affects each of us. The town of Chapel Hill, its city officials, businesses and residents often do not take student concerns seriously. Maynard will build a more active Student Government, pushing for greater influence in the university and local communities.

Maynard has served his congressional district well this past year as a vocal member of the finance committee. His experiences with the inner workings of Student Government have revealed to him many weaknesses, including its low visibility on campus and lack of power in representing student concerns. As student body president, Maynard will keep the campus informed of government activities through a monthly column in the DTH. He will empha-

size action in Student Government. Plans include an AIDS education program, a handicapped awareness week, establishment of a centralized election site in the student union and a voter registration drive to elect a student to town council. Maynard will work to end the distancing of the town council from the student body in issues such as the noise ordinance and the cancellation of Burnout.

Maynard's primary concern lies with the students and what they can do for themselves. He alone has the ability to bring power back to the position of student body president. As president, he will be able to recognize and act on the needs and ideas of the students of this university.

ANDY ANDERSON
Junior
Chemistry/Political Science

ROSS COULTER
Sophomore
Political Science

student body president. It takes commitment, it takes creativity and it takes a willingness to work hard for all students. Poston possesses these characteristics. I have come to know Keith as a good friend. I urge you, even if you have never voted before, to take that extra five minutes today and cast a ballot for Keith Poston.

DAVID CODY
Senior
Pharmacy

To the editor:

There are approximately 22,000 students at this university, yet on the average only about 10 percent to 15 percent vote in student elections. This is a result of apathy, but this year there is an issue that merits higher voting percentages. That issue is the funding of the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association. There is a referendum on today's ballot pertaining to CGLA funding, along with the names of seven student body president candidates.

The overwhelming majority of students on this campus do not

puts 100 percent of herself into anything she does. She has a genius for being able to look at a problem, immediately go straight to the heart of it and develop a viable solution that would be apparent to almost no one else.

Her best qualification, however, is that she cares, and has the ability to translate that caring into an active and effective administration. Although there are six other well-qualified candidates running for this office, there is no question in my mind that Sandy Rierson is the best candidate for the office of student body president.

CAROLYN CORR
Sophomore
Political Science

To the editor:

Sometimes you have to make a strong statement. That's why I must tell you about my good friend, Sandy Rierson. Since my freshman year, when we first had classes together, Sandy has stood out in my mind. I've never known this Morehead scholar to be afraid when asking a question or abashed when giving her point of view. That's not all. As president of the UNC Young Democrats, Rierson has been the driving force behind the

most active and respected political club on the North Carolina campus. Do you remember reading in the DTH about when Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan came and spoke? Or how about presidential aspirant Pat Schroeder, congressman David Price, or Democratic Party Chairman Jim Van Hecke? Sandy worked hard to bring those political powerhouses to UNC.

As vice president of the Young Democrats, I know firsthand of the energetic, hands-on leadership she provides. Rierson impresses me with her enthusiasm, her perseverance and her ability to manage programs. How about the student voter registration drive that netted hundreds of new voters? Sandy was a part of that. Or the town council and mayoral candidates forum in the Student Union? She organized it. And not once have I seen her get truly rattled. It takes more than missing keynote speakers or picketing prattlers to do that.

To Sandy Rierson, now running for student body president of one of the finest universities in this country, I give my highest endorsement.

PHILIP SHERIDAN
Junior
Political Science

enough to work hard, and qualified to do the job well. Bill Yelverton is all of the above.

By reading his statements and platform, you know where Bill stands on the issues facing UNC students. You know Bill cares about the University. Having worked closely with Bill this past year as co-president of the Campus Y, I can tell you that beyond the paper you read, Bill is eminently qualified for the position of student body president. Bill knows the University. Through his experience as an executive assistant for Bryan Hassel and his tenure at the Campus Y, he has worked with administrators and students from all parts of campus. He follows through on his word. His energy and innovation never end. As the Black Student Movement has acknowledged, Bill's sincerity and openness are the center of his inclusive leadership style. His experiences both inside and outside Student Government give him a unique perspective and knowledge base from which to work. Yelverton is a wise choice for our next student body president.

I encourage you to join me in voting for Bill Yelverton for student body president.

MARY SCHOLL
Senior
Public Policy Analysis

Don't be a curmudgeon: Vote today

Lewis

To the editor:

The office of student body president is one of the most thoughtful and demanding jobs any student at this university will ever undertake. The candidate who wins this highest office has to have a sincere concern for his fellow students and must possess strong leadership qualities. Brien Lewis exudes all of these characteristics.

Lewis consistently has proven to be an active member of congress by initiating an open door policy. He has taken it upon himself to man a Student Congress constituency booth in the lobbies of Morrison. Ehringhaus and Hinton James. From time to time, Lewis has even manned a congress booth in the Pit. In addition, Lewis has worked closely with the South Campus Outreach Program of Student Government and the Morrison Legislative Council.

Lewis continually has shown a willingness to fight discrimination by shunning proposed legislation to defund the CGLA. Other student leaders have followed the popular trend of attempting to cancel the funds of this minority organization. Lewis has worked to support the rights of all student groups. He has also indicated plans to increase minority recruitment.

This is truly a unique candidate. He has consistently demonstrated a

Martin

To the editor:

We need Kevin Martin as student body president. He has the best ideas of any candidate in the race, ideas which can truly improve student life for all of us. Kevin also has the ability to carry his platform out to the fullest as a strong, organized and practical leader of students.

We need an experienced leader as SBP, and Kevin is just that. Just ask his colleagues in this year's executive branch, where he served as a presidential aide, and in the judicial branch, where he served as Honor Court vice chairman. They are likely to tell you about his hard work, creativity and diplomacy.

We need a leader to logically and directly address tough student concerns such as minority affairs, the academic environment and the development of an affordable campus food service. Kevin confronts these problems with clearly defined and workable solutions, the only candidate to do so.

The cost of the campus food service is far too high, and Kevin has a plan to bring it down. We could consolidate all of the campus' food services, convenience stores and concessions services under one company. Lower food prices on campus would be achieved.

To learn to our fullest capabilities, we ought to be able to fully understand our instructors' English. Kevin is the only candidate to address this often neglected academic problem, with his call for minimal English fluency requirements for all

Maynard

To the editor:

As members of the UNC Student Congress, we see the need for a president who fits this description. After carefully reviewing each of the candidates, we have decided that David Maynard is our choice for SBP.

We have worked with David on Student Congress and witnessed the results of his hard work and aggress-

sive tactics. For example, last spring David successfully led the battle to defund the Student Consumer Action Union (SCAU), which was wasting thousands and thousands of student dollars each year. SCAU was riddled with corruption and waste, and David was the chief proponent of disbanding this problematic organization. As a member of the Finance Committee, David has carefully scrutinized each campus organization and has assisted in the funding of specific groups.